

Questions for "Gideon's Trumpet"

Directions: Answer these questions during the video.

Just after Gideon's first trial...

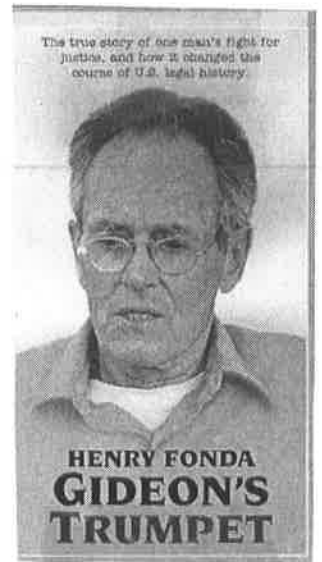
1. For what crimes was Gideon convicted?
2. How well did he defend himself?
3. Was the trial unfair?
4. Was the punishment appropriate?

At the point Gideon mails his appeal to the Supreme Court...

1. On what parts of the Constitution did Gideon base his appeal?
2. What is the importance of the writ of habeas corpus?
3. What is a writ of certiorari?
4. What is an *in forma pauperis* petition?

Following the Supreme Court conference in which they agree to hear the Gideon case...

1. What is the conference?
2. What is the importance of precedent (*stare decisis*)?



Following oral arguments before the Supreme Court...

1. What were the major points made by Abe Fortas (Gideon's lawyer)?
2. What arguments were made by the lawyer representing the state of Florida?
3. What arguments were made by the lawyer representing Gideon?
4. How would you decide the case? Why?

Following Gideon's preliminary appearance in court for the new trial...

1. Why isn't it double jeopardy to try Gideon a second time?
2. What is a statute of limitations?
3. Why didn't the statute of limitations apply since so much time had passed?

Finally:

Compare and contrast Gideon's two trials.